

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

On Monday, January 13, 2025, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Council Chambers at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Melissa Fetterley
 Board Member Reid Bernard
 Board Member Thomas Hagerty
 Board Member Paula Houts
 Board Member Laura Moore
 Board Member Hassan Salami

Members Absent: Board Member Nick Burgess

Also Present: Senior Planner Chris Anderson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Fetterley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Board Member Moore and seconded by Board Member Bernard to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Member Moore, Bernard, Hagerty, Houts, and Salami. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Burgess.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Meeting Minutes Dated December 16, 2024

Motion by Board Member Hagerty and seconded by Board Member Salami to approve the regular meeting minutes dated December 16, 2024.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Member Hagerty, Salami, Bernard, Houts, and Moore. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Burgess.

5. POLICY BOARD BUSINESS

5.01: Consider the Natural Resources Aspects of a Preliminary Plat for Riverstone South

6th Addition (Project No. 24-127); Case of Development Consulting Services, LLC

Senior Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the City has received an application from Development Consulting Services, LLC for a Preliminary Plat for Riverstone South 6th Addition, a proposed single-family residential development to be located on Outlot C, Riverstone South. The subject property is located south of Riverdale Drive, between 148th and Pearson Street. Revised plans have been received and additional comments have been provided.

Board Member Moore asked for more information on the oaks that need to be removed prior to April 15th and whether that would just be chopping the tree or removing the entire stump as well.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that it is about getting the trees removed and if the stumps would not be removed at that time, those stumps would need to be painted immediately to help prevent the introduction of oak wilt.

Board Member Moore asked if there is an end date on the protection of the City-owned land.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that it is his understanding that the seven-acre parcel acquired through the Riverstone South project provided that protection in perpetuity.

Board Member Moore asked if there are native seed mixes used by this builder in other additions of this development.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that some seed mixes have been used around stormwater basins, but the vast majority of Riverstone South does not have native seed mix.

Motion by Board Member Moore and seconded by Board Member Hagerty to recommend approval of the plans, contingent upon compliance with staff's review comments.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Member Moore, Hagerty, Bernard, Houts, and Salami. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Burgess.

5.02: Consider the Natural Resources Aspects of a Proposed Site Plan for Northstar Truck & RV Parking LLC (Project No. 24-122)

Senior Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the City has received a Land Use Application from Nikolay Babkin for a Site Plan and Zoning Amendment to accommodate a proposed truck and RV parking operation on the property known as 15861 Jarvis Street NW.

Board Member Salami asked if this is the first project where a property straddles two communities.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that this is a unique project that not only straddles two cities, but two counties. He commented that Ramsey and Elk River have worked together on road projects, but this is the first for a land use application in his experience.

Board Member Salami asked how taxes would work.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that nothing will change with how the site is taxed, noting that Sherburne County and Elk River would tax their portion of property and Anoka County and Ramsey will tax its portion of property.

Board Member Moore asked for more information on the Northfork lots near this parcel and whether those are vacant.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that there are homes on the Ramsey side but industrial development on the Elk River site.

Board Member Moore commented that there appears to be a significant tree buffer between the Northfork home and subject property. She commented that there are a lot of semis and RVs in her neighborhood that park on the street or overhanging from the driveway, so this is a great concept. She commented that those vehicles are taller than six feet and asked if the fence should be higher.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that the fence is not required at all, as screening could also be provided through plantings. He stated that even with an eight-foot fence the top of a semi would still be above that. He stated that there is a heavily wooded area that exists with a fence and additional plantings inside of the fence that will be added.

Board Member Moore stated that she agrees it would not make sense to place trees in the middle of the parking area as that could cause difficulty for the vehicles to maneuver.

Chairperson Fetterly agreed that this is an interesting concept that is needed in the community.

Motion by Board Member Salami and seconded by Board Member Bernard to recommend approval of the Landscape Plan, contingent upon compliance with staff's review comments.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Member Salami, Bernard, Hagerty, Houts, and Moore. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Burgess.

6. BOARD / STAFF INPUT

Senior Planner Anderson stated that there are still dumpsters at the Public Works site for cardboard collection that will run through the following week. He stated that the holiday lights collection will run for another 2.5 weeks at City Hall. He noted that a new Council Liaison will be appointed at the City Council meeting this week and should be at the next EPB meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Board Member Moore and seconded by Board Member Hagerty to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Anderson
Senior Planner

ATTEST:

Abdi Sahal
Planning Assistant

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.